



TRAFFIC SAFETY AND PARKING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, April 4, 2007 - 6:00 pm

San Bruno City Hall
567 El Camino Real
San Bruno, CA 94066

MINUTES

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS -

A. ROLL CALL

<u>TSPC Members:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
(Chair) John Giuseponi	X	
(Vice-Chair) Mark Howard	X	
Sol Weiner	X	
Doris Maez	X	

Staff in Attendance:

Steve Davis, Public Works Department
Jane Chambers, Public Works Department
Frans Lind, Public Works Department
Chris Coles, Public Works Department
Dermot Downes, Police Department

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from the February 7, 2007 meeting by Sol Weiner, seconded by Mark Howard (M/ Weiner, S/Howard: 4-0-0) Approved.

3. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. Development of Comprehensive Traffic Calming Policy – Steve Davis stated this topic is a follow up to the presentation to the City Council on the six month Cypress Avenue speed bump pilot program. The analysis performed was based on the before and after effects of the speed bumps as well as a survey of the residents as to their effectiveness. The essential feedback was that speed bumps are effective at reducing speed and the volume of traffic. Council requested that the TSPC review neighborhood requests for traffic calming to develop a comprehensive program to address these requests. A draft work plan was developed by City staff to implement this policy within six months. Staff will go out to specific neighborhoods and collect data on how to best develop the City policy and then we will come back to the TSPC with our findings. City staff will finalize which neighborhoods will be addressed at the June and July meetings, which would be working sessions

where we would look at the data and evaluate what the appropriate mitigations may be, to notice the neighborhoods for their feedback, and to come up with a process to address the issues. Steve proposed that for the regular June and July meetings, the TSPC and City staff work on two neighborhoods and invite residents to attend.

Doris Maez suggested using a different venue for the potential number of people that may attend.

Sol Weiner commented that the Committee will still have to address the regular issues of the meeting and that this issue is being carried out for an extended time. We should be moving as quickly as possible on the issues that are similar to Cypress Avenue. Jane Chambers responded that she would like the response time to be faster than six months to the Council and then an action point at that time.

Mark Howard asked if the City has looked at traffic circles. Steve Davis responded that one of the things that came out of the Council session was to look at a broader list of possible traffic calming measures. After City staff and the TSPC have the working meetings, in August we could finalize our recommendations and then by September we should be ready to go back to the City Council with our recommendations for these specific four neighborhood areas. Traffic calming really is about traffic volume and critical speed, along with the type of street it is. Mark Howard commented that we might want to schedule times during the meetings for specific neighborhoods.

Steve Davis also stated City staff has had eight different requests for various traffic calming issues in different neighborhoods, so we are going to review the Belle Air neighborhood, South San Anselmo from San Felipe to the Millbrae border, DeSoto Way and Crestmoor Drive. The TSPC members may want to meet with City staff the night before to prepare for the presentation.

Doris Maez commented that Belle Air School might be available to use as a venue.

Mark Howard offered to head the meeting for one of the neighborhoods. Sol Weiner commented that the TSPC needs to be open to all resident comments.

John Giuseponi asked if we could have some representatives for each neighborhood come forward versus the whole neighborhood. Jane Chambers stated she would be concerned about limiting the public's participation. Mark Howard commented that he was encouraging more of an open forum instead of limiting resident comments to two to three minutes and a lot of repeated information.

Steve Davis would like to plan some neighborhood information meetings that are facilitated by neighborhood representation and City staff. Doris Maez commented that we should be aware of language barriers and renters versus owners when we contact residents.

Mark Howard asked if the Police Department could give the TSPC some baseline radar numbers for the neighborhoods. Steve Davis stated he already has a firm coming in to do counts on speed and volume in Belle Air. Doris Maez commented that we need to take into consideration the grade separation development that will be taking place in a few years.

Alice Barnes, Fifth Avenue, commented that the City should look into one-way streets on Angus, Pine and Walnut as a solution, as well as parking only on one side of the street.

Mark Howard stated that the City needs to review the width of our fire trucks and the width of the streets and make some changes, because if a fire truck can't get to your house, the property values are going to go down.

Steve Davis asked the Committee members to set a work plan on what has been proposed with comments or modifications, to confirm that the appropriate measures would be the type of street, average daily volume and speed to measure the issues in any neighborhood, and then to collect the data to use.

Mark Howard confirmed that City staff is using only these three criteria out of the twelve for traffic calming. Steve Davis responded that the three criteria chosen are the most relevant to the neighborhood issues being addressed.

Doris Maez asked if the 85% speed criteria would be measured on a 24-hour basis. Steve Davis confirmed this.

Mark Howard would like to see “special concerns” added to the criteria, so we could include some data, such as proximity to schools in our decisions, as well as use data from other criteria as needed.

Mark Howard made a motion that the TSPC will utilize to evaluate neighborhood traffic impacts four criteria: 1. Street type; 2. Traffic volume; 3. 85% speed; 4. Any special neighborhood concerns that may have an impact. Seconded by Doris Maez. (M/ Howard, S/Maez: 4-0-0) Approved.

Steve Davis then addressed the work plan for June and July, which would consist of meeting with two neighborhoods for two consecutive meetings, as well as a staff arranged study session with each neighborhood to cover the issues with them so that the residents are organized in their presentation to the TSPC. Doris Maez repeated the recommendation that each neighborhood be scheduled during a specific time during the meetings.

- B. Answers to Various Questions Concerning February 7, 2007 Consideration of Traffic Signal at San Bruno Avenue at Sixth Avenue – Frans Lind stated this was a response to questions raised by residents at the previous meeting.

Mark Howard asked if distribution was done to those residents. Steve Davis stated this could be done.

Doris Maez stated there seems to be a conflict in the fact that there is not a crossing at San Bruno Avenue at 101. Frans responded that there is no crossing, but there are push buttons for crossing. Mark Howard commented that it is not within City limits.

Frans stated he would recommend a “continental” style ladder crosswalk across San Bruno Avenue. Steve Davis stated the neighborhood concerns regarding San Bruno Avenue are going to be considered as part of the neighborhood traffic calming program, so enhancements will be looked at in that context.

- C. Consideration of Request to Improve Pedestrian Safety at Crosswalk at Cottonwood Drive near Rollingwood Elementary School – Frans Lind stated this request was introduced by both Committee member Doris Maez and resident Joanna Golts. There is an existing crosswalk but there was concern about a hedge and a parked vehicle causing limited visibility on Cottonwood Drive. Frans stated he has inspected the location three times and the same vehicle has been parked near the crosswalk on each visit, and the vehicle does block visibility for children entering the crosswalk. The double yellow center line is also badly faded and needs to be repainted.

City staff is recommending red curbing for both sides of the north end of the crosswalk as well as signs being installed to prohibit stopping or standing at this location while picking up students. At

the south side of the crosswalk, City staff recommends red curbing, which would prevent vehicles from parking there and blocking visibility. The hedge does not seem to be a clear sight hindrance. The “school ahead” signplate that exists will be replaced. Signs will also be installed on Rollingwood that will advise “school crosswalk ahead” as well as “STOP sign ahead”.

Doris Maez thanked Frans Lind for his hard work.

Mark Howard stated the 18-foot section between the driveway and the sidewalk suffers from run-off issues and creates a slip and fall issue. He wanted the TSPC to be aware of this issue. The school district needs to fix this drainage issue. He also stated he questions a mid-block crosswalk when any student leaving could stay on the east side of the street and not cross. He stated he’s not sure if this is the best location for a crosswalk. He’d like it to be looked at before it is approved.

Doris Maez asked where the bus stop is located? Mark Howard responded he did not know. Doris agreed with the suggestion by Mark Howard to move the crosswalk around the corner so that the children only need to cross once. Mark Howard asked if there is a footpath near the driveway of the school. Frans Lind confirmed there is a walkway there.

Mark Howard made a motion to request that Traffic Engineer Fran Lind review the crosswalk location based on the recommendations made by the TSPC. Doris Maez seconded the motion. (M/ Howard, S/Maez: 4-0-0) Approved.

- D. Consideration of Interim Grade Crossing Safety Improvements at San Bruno Avenue, San Mateo Avenue, Scott Street and Angus Avenue – Steve Davis stated the original Grade Separation Project has been moved forward a few years, so Caltrain plans on doing interim safety improvements as shown on the attached sheets. The CAC reviewed these improvements, the goal being to realign the location of the railroad crossing for San Mateo Avenue and provide safety improvements for pedestrians at San Mateo Avenue, Angus Avenue and Scott Street, along with lighting and landscape improvements. This will add an additional STOP at San Mateo Avenue and Huntington.

Chris Coles and Steve Minden from Caltrain reviewed the drawings presented on the proposed safety improvements.

Sol Weiner asked the time span for this project. Steve Minden responded that it will go out to bid in May and begin construction this fall. Construction will last about one year. John Giuseponi asked if any City utilities would be altered. Steve Minden responded there will be minor utility work involved such as storm drains and manholes.

Alice Barnes, Fifth Avenue, stated San Bruno Avenue has been moved on the drawing to make it easier to get the foundation into the proper location. She would like to see the same safety markings in the pavement that are there now. We need the words “Wait Here” in English and Spanish painted on the pavement. There will also be a six foot chain link fence installed and she requested Caltrain look at a wrought iron fence instead, as it cannot be broken through like a chain link fence.

Doris Maez asked if there is a significant cost difference in the fencing. Steve Minden responded there is. Caltrain uses a standard fence that is generally stronger than a chain link fence.

Mark Howard commented that he’d rather see the money put into the permanent fence.

Sol Weiner stated he is against a chain link fence and would like to put in what the engineer recommends.

Mark Howard commented that the end of Walnut and Euclid needs a heavier fence and some kind of pedestrian underpass or overpass. Steve Minden stated they would take a look at that. Perhaps a controlled ped crossing may need to be reviewed.

Mark Howard motioned that the City Council approve the interim safety improvements as submitted. Seconded by Doris Maez. (M/ Howard, S/Maez: 4-0-0) Approved.

E. Development of TSPC By-laws

Steve Davis stated he has taken the template provided by the City Attorney and would like to have the Committee members review and come back to the next meeting with recommendations.

F. Annual Report to City Council: Tentatively set May 8, 2007 – Steve Davis stated the report has been moved to the second meeting in September in order to report to the Council on the traffic calming project.

G. Lyn Ward, resident, requested red curbing along the north side of Angus Avenue. Frans Lind reviewed the photos of the location. Staff has visited the site and there is adequate width for a car to turn and pull up to the STOP sign in front of the house. There is adequate clear view in all directions, so staff is not recommending the request for the red curbing.

Lyn Ward, 555 2nd Avenue, introduced additional pictures of cars parked around the corner. She asked if the Committee members had made the trip to this location, since when she is in her Honda Accord it is difficult to see.

Mark Howard asked if once the resident gets to the STOP sign, can she see traffic to her right? She stated she can but you have to maneuver around the cars parked on both sides. Mark Howard stated the City will be addressing the congestion in the upcoming traffic calming project.

Mark Howard made a motion that the red curbing requested be addressed as part of the Belle Air neighborhood traffic calming project. Seconded by Sol Weiner. (M/ Howard, S/Weiner: 4-0-0) Approved.

4. REPORT OF COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES –

Doris Maez stated the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee met in March and are working on a path of honor to the VA clinic and involving school kids on a sign project within the City's bike and pedestrian lanes.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA –

None

6. ADJOURNMENT –

Motion: To adjourn the Traffic Safety and Parking Committee (TSPC) meeting until it's next regular scheduled meeting on May 2, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

(M/Howard, S/Maez): 4-0-0 - Approved. Meeting Adjourned, 8:07 pm.